

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
27 May 2004 (27.05.2004)

PCT

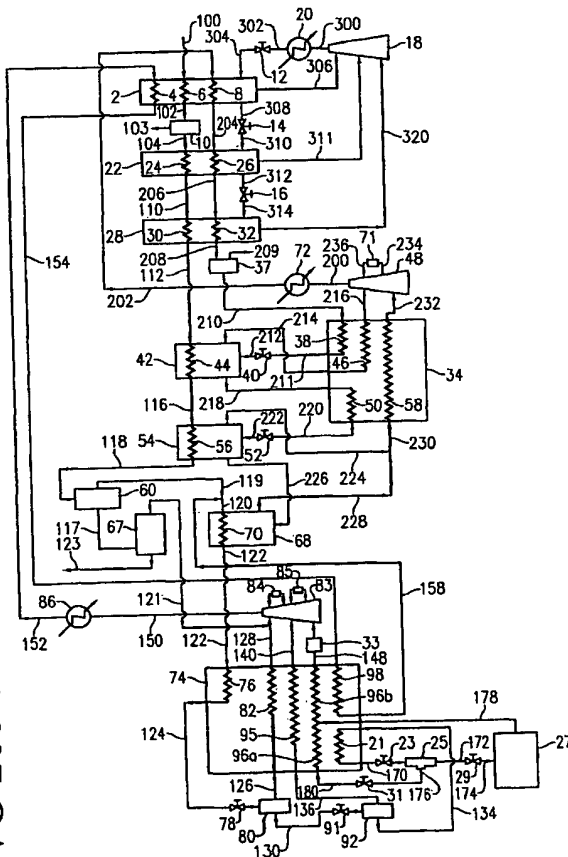
(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/044508 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **F25J**
- (21) International Application Number: **PCT/US2003/035657**
- (22) International Filing Date:
10 November 2003 (10.11.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
10/294,112 13 November 2002 (13.11.2002) US
- (63) Related by continuation (CON) or continuation-in-part (CIP) to earlier application:
US 10/294,112 (CIP)
Filed on 13 November 2002 (13.11.2002)
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **CONO-COPHILLIPS COMPANY** [US/US]; 600 North Dairy Ashford, Houston, TX 77079 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **HAHN, Paul, R.** [US/US]; 1307 Wentworth Court, Houston, TX 77055 (US). **YAO, Jame** [US/US]; 1151 Gloria Court, Sugar Land, TX 77478 (US). **LEE, Rong-Jwyn** [US/US]; 1906 Valleria Court, Sugar Land, TX 77479 (US). **BAUDAT, Ned, P.** [US/US]; 907 Sandpiper, Sugar Land, TX 77478 (US). **EATON, Anthony, P.** [US/US]; 450 Williams Landing Dr., Sugar Land, TX 77479 (US).
- (74) Agents: **RICHARDS, John et al.**; Ladas & Parry, 26 West 61st Street, New York, NY 10023 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **ENHANCED METHANE FLASH SYSTEM FOR NATURAL GAS LIQUEFACTION**

(57) Abstract: Natural gas liquefaction system employing an open methane cycle wherein the liquefied natural gas is flashed immediately upstream of the liquefied natural gas storage tank and boil off vapors from the tank are returned to the open methane cycle.



WO 2004/044508 A2